

THE RIO NEWS.

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY.

VOL. XX.

RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 3RD, 1893.

NUMBER 1

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2, PRAÇA DAS MARINHAS
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EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATION OFFICES:—

79, Rua Sete de Setembro.

RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 3rd, 1893.

Our subscribers will render us a great favor by advising us of any desired changes in their subscriptions before the close of the year, or early in the ensuing month. The steady increase in our subscription list is an assurance to us that our efforts have not failed to meet with a large measure of commendation, and this, we trust, will be both merited and received during the ensuing year.

It would be interesting to know just what the São Paulo planters desire to have done for them. They have had generations of slaves to work for them, they have had all the favors and privileges that any country could confer, they have had laws and innumerable appropriations for the introduction of European colonists on terms designed solely for their benefit, and now they have a final concession from the government of the privilege of introducing Chinese labor. And yet they are not satisfied. They meet to discuss the ways and means, and there learn that it will cost \$25 per capita to import the Chinaman, while the bonus granted by the state will not reach one-fifth that sum. As they have not been accustomed to pay for such favors, they first hesitate—and then they resolve to appeal to Congress and the municipalities for assistance. They want the taxpayers to import their laborers, particularly as the said taxpayers are of another class, and the funds must eventually come in great part from the working classes. It is a fine scheme surely, but it reflects very little credit on the rich planters of Brazil. If they need labor and the benefits are for them, why do they not act for themselves and meet the costs from their own pockets? Why should the taxpayers of Brazil, who are largely the consumers of the necessities of life, pay for the introduction of their laborers? Why should the native laborers, who are in need of all this work, contribute toward the expenses of introducing men to take their places? And why should the residents of Rio Grande, Pernambuco and Pará pay for the support of plantations in São Paulo? It is an iniquitous system from every point of view.

THE continued failure of the municipal authorities to meet their obligations to cattle dealers and their employes at Santa Cruz, should be considered a convincing argument against the further administration of the public slaughter-house by the city. There has not been a year since the creation of the Santa Cruz slaughter-house in which losses to the revenue and disgraceful scandals have not occurred. There is, in fact, not one single redeeming feature in the whole record of that undertaking which is creditable to the city of Rio de Janeiro, nor can one single reason be drawn from its record which will justify its retention by the municipal authorities. It has been a source of corruption and jobbery, an instrument of favoritism, injustice and oppression, a scene of frequent disorder and endless complaint. Many a time the beef supply of this great city has been threatened with summary suspension by the strikes of unpaid employes

and the refusal to deliver more cattle by unpaid cattle merchants. The costs of transportation to the city have also been unpaid for a long time, and the Central railway would certainly suspend this highly unprofitable service, if it could. In view of all this, is it not time to suspend all further municipal interference in such matters? The direction of a great slaughter-house requires business qualifications of a very high order, and these will rarely be found in the municipal councils of this city. Common sense teaches us that all these great public services are essentially business enterprises and should be conducted by business methods. The consumer should never be permitted to consider such an enterprise as a public charity, nor should the taxpayers ever be called upon to liquidate deficits. The man who eats the meat should pay for it, and the man who pays should never have any restrictions placed upon his supply. If left to private management, and if the fullest competition is invited, we are convinced that there will be very little danger that the beef supply of this city will be restricted, or that prices will be excessive.

THE NEW FUSION SCHEME.

The vigorous opposition of the *Jornal do Commercio* to the projected fusion of the Banco do Brazil and the Banco da Republica, has been largely based upon the illegality of various features of the scheme. The issue of bonuses (or bonds) as an aid to industry, is considered not only as an absurdity, but as a violation of the understanding established by Congress in declining to take up a previous executive recommendation for the extension of such aid. When the first proposition came up, having been recommended in the President's message to Congress, it was fully discussed in Congress, in the press, and in meetings of manufacturers and merchants, and its rejection followed. Now, ignoring all this, the government resurrects the rejected scheme and proposes, through a dictatorial decree, to issue bonds, or bonuses for this purpose to a total of 100,000,000\$, or 40,000,000\$ more than was originally asked for.

In addition to this the government does not specify the conditions on which the banks should make use of this loan, as was the case with the "aid to agriculture" bill some years ago. The banks may therefore ask any rate of interest and stipulate whatever condition they please, by which means the "suffering industries" will receive no more aid than it may suit the convenience of the bank to grant. It is suspected that at least 40,000,000\$ of this issue will be required by the Treasury for pressing needs, and that the banks will find many long-deferred uses for the remainder. The purpose of extending aid to industries will therefore prove a mere subterfuge.

The *Jornal* also calls attention to another grave defect in the scheme—the standing of the bank itself. As a government institution, the source of the national circulating medium, and the agent of the Treasury in all its important transactions, it should be a solid and conservative institution. And yet this new and important bank enters upon its career by having a moratorium for a part of its indebtedness to the state, and a "relief" for the remaining part. If this new bank is to "expand and strengthen public wealth in the interior and in the foreign relations of the country," and if it is to extend its powerful aid to the government in times of need, why should it be necessary to provide these special measures of relief, cancelling a part of its indebtedness and granting time for the rest? How is it possible to create a great credit institution out of a bank which practically compromises for a large part of its indebtedness at the very beginning of its career? And how much of public confidence can such a bank command?

Still another defect in the scheme is the permission granted the new bank to reduce its arbitrary capital of 190,000,000\$ to 150,000,000\$ six months after beginning operations. If there is any justification for such a step, it ought to exist now and the capital should be reduced before its inauguration. Tampering with the capital of an association in this manner is far from being an element of strength. The explanation is that this is done to enable the bank to receive its own shares in payments of debts, a measure apparently designed to cover up some of the grossest scandals connected with the early manage-

ment of the Banco da Republica, which was created and owned in great part by several so-called banks and who still owe it large sums of money. Permitting this bank to thus receive its own shares in payment of debts, in order to conceal irregular transactions, is not only a gross piece of favoritism, but it is a dangerous precedent. Still further, no rate is fixed for the acceptance of these shares; shall it be the par rate of 200\$, or the present market rate of 75\$?

It is further noted that the new bank will begin life with an indebtedness of 311,000,000\$, of which 180,000,000\$ will be owing to the Treasury. This is assuredly not a very auspicious beginning for a bank upon which so much depends. But this is not the worst, for its assets will consist largely of stocks and obligations at present depreciated 65 to 80 per cent. It will require a miracle to create solvency from such a state of affairs, and we may soon expect, therefore, a worse and far more perilous situation than we now have.

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM.

The decree reorganizing the Museu Nacional was published on the 31st ult. It provides that the object of the museum is to study the natural history of the world, particularly that of Brazil. The institution is divided into four sections, viz.:—

- 1st.—Zoology, anatomy and comparative embryology;
 - 2nd.—Botany;
 - 3rd.—Mineralogy, geology and paleontology.
 - 4th.—Anthropology, ethnology and archaeology.
- The museum will be under a director-general, assisted by an administrative council, and will comprise a director-general, 4 directors of sections, 4 assistant directors, 4 naturalists, 1 librarian, etc.

RIO HARBOR MISSION.

Rio, December 29th, 1892.

To the Editor of THE RIO NEWS:

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly permit us to make an appeal through your paper on behalf of "The Wescon Rio Harbour Mission" which is trying to extend a helping hand to the many sailors of all nationalities who visit this port.

In addition to our Mission Home in the Rua da Livramento we have secured an old ship to serve as a floating Bethel. This will require a larger outlay than heretofore and it becomes necessary to ask assistance. We therefore make known our need, confident that many who are not contributing to any charity of this sort, will find it in their heart to lend a helping hand to a good cause.

Any who wish to give money, clothing, old papers, books, etc., may send their name and address to

L. C. IRVINE, (Secretary),
care of Messrs. Levering & Co.
Caixa do Correio 863.

BRITISH SENSITIVENESS.

Rio de Janeiro, 30th December, 1892.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I ask your super-sensitive correspondent "Nucleus Dewdrop"—or "Aristides Maria," if he prefers—whether he is aware that the writer who rendered him the great service of exciting a torpid liver, is Portuguese, not Brazilian? Of course it will make no difference to Mr. Dewdrop; the mortal offence of criticising anything British has been committed and such animosity must be relaxed. Perhaps, also, it will soothe Mr. Dewdrop's rage to know that others have made the same remark before Oliveira Martins used it, and that notable Englishmen have again and again criticised their own countrymen in similar terms. Any nation which possesses the fighting instinct in a high degree, like the English, German, Russian, Spanish, etc., may truthfully be classed as having something of the barbarian beneath a veneer of civilization. Were Max Müller, or Huxley, or Locky to say this, no one would object, for it would be considered deeply philosophical, but when Oliveira Martins ventures upon such a conclusion, then the *amour propre* of such men as Mr. Dewdrop is aroused and the remark is called impertinent.

As for the criticisms upon my own countrymen—which illustrate Mr. Dewdrop's idea of the "racial contumacious"—they may possibly be considered funny, but they are neither just, nor in good taste. There is something decidedly "barbarian" in calling a man a "nigger" who happens to say an unpleasant thing of you, and particularly so when you are living under his own roof. And as it is not exceptional that our nationality should be composed of a mixture of races, it is not just that we should be derided for it. I shall not exaggerate in saying that there is not an English, French, or German colony in any part of the world, where a mixed race has not resulted. The mulatto is not unknown in the West Indies and the United States, and I have even heard that in Hailson Bay Co. officials in Canada have been known to take Indian wives unto themselves. In India, Australia, and Cape Colony, also, mixed races are to be found, and even in Hongkong traces of the proud Saxon are not unknown in native quarters. And even here in Brazil, permit me to say it, more than one instance can be cited where the households of rich and influential British merchants (we do not call attention to men of lower stations in life) have been presided over by the dusky daughters of Africa. Your correspondent may not know it, but he lives in so fragile a glass house that it will never do for him to throw stones. We have our faults, to be sure, but we can not be made to answer for all of which a "bilious Briton" may see fit to accuse us.

Hoping that I have not trespassed unduly upon your space, I remain, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
CARLOU.

GULLIVER'S BILIOUSNESS.

Rio de Janeiro, December 31st, 1892.

To the Editor of The Rio News.

Dear Sir:—Will you kindly, through the medium of your valuable paper, convey my hearty thanks for benefits received to the writer of an article which appeared in your issue of this week and which was signed "N. D."?

Like N. D. I occasionally am troubled with that trying complaint to which he so feelingly alludes, but unlike him it has never occurred to me that a remedy might be found in the columns of the press; possibly relief may be found by seeing one's effusions in print, and if so I should like to try the experiment.

Now, sir, being pleased with the idea, which I do not hesitate to admit from "N. D." I am good-humored and am inclined to think that the obnoxious Brazilian writer who has unfortunately caused "N. D.'s" gorge to rise, might have been suffering also from "bilious attack," and surely if my presumption is correct, one ought to make allowance for a fellow-sufferer, and dispense with the "scratching."

But if one Brazilian writer has aroused the ire of "N. D.," it may interest him to know that another writer, presumably Brazilian, has through the columns of one of the daily papers, published in Rio, Thursday 29th December, 1892, given information which ought to be cherished and made much of; for we are very gravely informed that during the past year, no small amount of money has been expended in the purchase of millions of small boxes of various colors together with the contents were made and sold in England.

Now I infer from my reading of that extract from "Varas Noticias" that the contents of the various colored small boxes were no less than that useful article, the "British Pill," and if so, it no longer lies in a nutshell, we shall find relief in the "British Pill Box."

I am not contemplating the ordeal of naturalization with a view to undergo that formality; anything British is good enough for me and I candidly confess that notwithstanding the many natural beauties which Brazil undoubtedly possesses, I for one would prefer to spend the rest of my life within measurable distance of "The deep big Ben," where I could be certain of hearing the measured tramp, tramp, of a real old English "Bobby."

Much more might be said as to the other items of "N. D.'s" letter, but valuable space, etc., of valued paper compels me to save a chance for insertion by being brief.

I have the honor to be, dear Sir,
Yours truly,
"Exorde."

SOAP VERSUS AN OFFICIAL DECREE.

Fath.

Recently the Brazilian government issued a decree that immigrants, natives of Arabia and Turkey, would be prohibited landing in this country (the reasons for such prohibition are not given) and authorities at the several ports are on the look-out to carry out these orders given by the government to see that the Arab or Turk does not effect a landing should he come to their shores.

A curious incident occurred in October last when 100 odd Arabs and Turks (including four performing bears) arrived by steamer at Rio de Janeiro from Europe, purposing to land there, but were stopped, the captain being ordered to keep them on board. The inconvenience of this command may be imagined, when, be it known, the vessel they were on had not more than half completed her voyage, her destination being Chili.

However there was no alternative, and it was decided to keep the vessel in Rio harbor until a return vessel for Europe arrived. In two or three days she came, when the 100 odd were transferred to her; they, being without the means, were unable to pay their way, and the vessel receiving them had no accommodation to offer. So there stood the disappointed Arabs and Turks on the open deck of the vessel with the prospect of a twenty days' journey without covering to protect them from elements experienced on a voyage.

Now, could the authorities be prevailed on to allow these poor destitute to land? No!

Or, would they receive a—if this 100 odd could raise the means? Oh no!

So there was nothing left for them but to return to Europe, or to resort to some stratagem to defeat the law (newly-made). The various intellects on board were set in motion, but without arriving at any definite plan. An ingenious mind suggested soap, but the prevailing opinion was that it wouldn't wash. It did; thus:

Each Arab or Turk, be it said, was given a piece of soap (Sunlight soap) and was shown to a tub of water. The effect was wonderful; the transformation was so complete, and the authorities were so lambasted that before the steamer left Rio only 30 odd of these wily Arabs and Turks remained on board, the others having passed the uncensorious guards.

Three days later the steamer turned up at port again, Bahia this time, and the soap had not been neglected; so after a stay of a few hours the last of the wily 100 odd were on land in Brazil, and were left behind to carry on their trades as pedlars and artisans and exhibiting their performing bears to the less enlightened negroes.

Many were the after calculations made by those remaining on board as to this mysterious change in color and disappearance of this warlike-looking band of Orientals; little did they think that the whole secret lay in the use of soap.

Many curious incidents occurred on board by using this soap. They are too numerous to relate but one further may be given.

A female (Turkish), one of the wily 100, discovered her husband on board after leaving Rio; he on his way as passenger to Bahia. She recognized him, but he not her at first. Later on the recognition became mutual, a mutual kiss made and they became mutually happy and landed. So much for soap; these are marvellous proofs of what soap will do. Firstly it washes away a recently made Brazilian law, and secondly it so transforms a woman that her husband does not recognize her.

These facts will possibly meet the eyes of some of my fellow-travellers and I leave them to relate other details which occurred during those four days' difficulties, which were so easily washed away, and I should recommend all vessels and travellers to carry a good supply of soap when they take a journey to South America.

VIATOR.

Rio, 21st December, 1892.

From the New York Times, November 23rd, 1892.

QUARANTINE AND CLEANLINESS.

Great Britain is so situated commercially that the interruption of the movement of shipping by rigid quarantine regulations is a very serious matter, a fact which has led to a pretty thorough study of the best means of dealing with infectious diseases of foreign origin. One result has been the restriction of quarantine to the simplest form, while special attention is given to the sanitary condition of seaports and of cities and towns. During the recent epidemic of cholera on the Continent, though England was in constant and close communication with the ports of Germany, Holland and France, and especially liable to receive the infection from these countries, there was comparatively little detection of vessels or interference with the movement of passengers or merchandise, and very few cases of cholera appeared in the country. Prompt and effective action was given to actual cases on shipboard and to vessels known to be infected, and there was little interference with those having clean bills of health, though a watch was kept on passengers from infected ports for a period of five days after landing. Travel and traffic were scarcely interrupted at all, and immunity from cholera was largely due to effective treatment of actual infection wherever it showed itself, and to sanitary conditions which were unfavorable to its spread.

Old-fashioned methods of quarantine with their vexatious restraints and their interference with commerce and travel are inherited from the times when contagious diseases were liable to become epidemic wherever they might gain a foothold, in account of conditions which favored their rapid propagation. The only safety was in keeping them out altogether, and no precautions were regarded as too severe. This country is by no means in a condition now to follow the English policy of nominal quarantine, but there is plenty of room for applying scientific knowledge and simplifying regulations and their enforcement. We are peculiarly exposed on account of the enormous volume of our seacoast and the lack of a uniform system. It is only under national regulation that a uniform system can be adopted and reduced to strict scientific requirements. It is only by such a system that the subject can be treated according to the best knowledge of the time and by methods best adapted to our own conditions and requirements.

We also suffer a great disadvantage on account of the stream of immigrants that pours in upon us from European ports, after gathering from all the polluted sources of Europe and Asia. Vessels coming with their steerages crowded with the poorest and least cleanly of the population of other countries cannot be treated as though they brought only merchandise and ordinary travellers. The strict quarantine that has been established against vessels bringing steerage immigrants is upheld in part by a sentiment favorable to checking that kind of importation, but it is also a safeguard against an exceptional source of danger. Quarantine and the regulation of immigration ought no doubt to be dealt with by separate and different measures, but in the present state of the laws they cannot be kept wholly apart, and if a little too much quarantine results in less immigration of the undesirable kind it cannot be regarded as altogether an evil.

But there is one thing that we can do to protect ourselves against an epidemic of cholera next year, which is an object of more or less dread. We can give attention to our internal sanitary condition, and that is in fact the best possible protection. Cholera can be prevented from becoming the dreadful scourge that it has been in times past, before sanitary science had been applied to the protection of public health. The infection can be mastered with comparative ease while it finds no pollution in which to breed and no filthy conditions in which to spread. In this city, for instance, if drainage is properly attended to, if streets are kept clean, if the water supply is free from pollution, and if the sanitary conditions among which people live are wholesome, there is little danger that cholera will become epidemic, even though the infection should make its appearance. With proper attention to these conditions, and with vigilance on the part of the Board of Health whenever sporadic cases appear, the contagion can be stamped out and kept from spreading. In the present state of medical knowledge and sanitary science cholera can be reduced to one of the least dangerous of maladies, instead of being one of the most dreaded. It is only a question of applying the means which public authorities have or can have at their command. Cleanliness is the one great safeguard against this dreaded enemy of mankind, which makes victims chiefly of those who are already in an unhealthy condition or in a wholesome surroundings. If we put our cities and towns in thorough order we can defy the foreign plague, and at the same time we cannot afford to neglect any reasonable precaution to prevent its entrance upon our shores.

RIVER PLATE ITEMS.

—Gold was quoted at 292 in Buenos Aires on the 2nd inst.

—Reports of revolution are still current in Buenos Aires.

—The number of immigrants arrived at Buenos Aires in the month of December was 11,000.

—Montevideo telegrams of the 2nd say that many Rio Grande federalists had left for the frontier the preceding night.

—According to the latest telegrams the situation in the Argentine province of Corrientes remains unchanged. By some a pacific solution is anticipated through the intervention of the national government's representative, while others are expecting a reopening of hostilities at any moment.

—The blizzard at Montevideo has been having prayers offered for rain, and a telegram of the 2nd says that the barometer is falling.

—A Buenos Ayres telegram of the 28th ult. says that it is much political excitement in the province of that name and that disturbances are expected.

—In Corrientes the belligerents have suspended hostilities, and the government has appointed Marco Avelleda national interventor for the province.

—A Montevideo telegram of the 2nd says that the crew of the steamer *Jesford* has mutinied in that port, refusing to clear for Santos because of yellow fever.

—It is reported that the La Plateras steamers, running between Buenos Aires and Montevideo, have been sold to the syndicate with which negotiations have been for some time in progress.

—A telegram of the 28th ult. from Buenos Ayres states that the strength of the Corrientes revolutionists is constantly growing. They are said to have defeated the government troops at Monte Caseros, Mercedes and Bella Vista, capturing Cacho, Montana, Paila, Maidana and Herrera.

—The Montevideo army has some truly gallant colonels in its midst. A short time ago we referred to the brutal conduct of one of these fire-eating individuals in slashing his horse with his sword, and now we have to record a case of another colonel having inflicted a poor old woman because her dog bit his child. We presume that should the opportunity ever occur these officers would prove themselves equally valiant upon the field of battle. We should think that before long the people of Uruguay will begin to feel ashamed of the officers who can so far degrade themselves as to ill-treat women and animals, and will insist on some punishment being meted out to them. The Uruguayan army is about the largest on record for the number of inhabitants, and the officers are stated to equal the soldiers in numbers.—Buenos Aires *Review of the River Plate*.

PROVINCIAL NOTES.

—The Rio Grande state legislature met on the 31st ult.

—The Pernambuco preparatory exhibition was closed on the 31st ult.

—The report that Governor Porciuncula, of Rio de Janeiro, intends to resign, has been contradicted.

—Reports are current in Pernambuco that the governor is considering a purpose to dissolve the state legislature.

—João Pedro Locatelli, editor of the Italian section of the newspaper *Mercurio*, was arrested in Porto Alegre on the 30th ult.

—The telegraph reports heavy rains in Ceará, from which it may be inferred that the year will be a favorable one for agriculture.

—It is reported from Angra dos Reis that the French colonists there are abandoning their lands and have come into town in a starving condition.

—It is asserted by one of the S. Paulo aldermen that if reductions are not made in expenditures, the municipal budget this year will show a deficit.

—The *Diário de Santos* of the 29th ult. says that a force of 40 soldiers of the 22nd battalion of infantry left Santos for S. Paulo on the previous day.

—There was a fight between sailors of the navy and policemen in Pernambuco on the evening of the 1st. Several persons were injured, and among them the police sub-delegate.

—A large fire occurred in Pernambuco on the night of the 1st, the cotton warehouse belonging to Sr. Neesen being destroyed, together with 975 sacks of cotton. The losses are estimated at 60,000\$.

—Affairs in the city and state of Pernambuco, says the *Commercio*, a paper published there, are in a lamentable condition. Crime is rife, and outrages of the most heinous nature are committed every day.

—Dr. Fernando Abbot, the Castilista governor of Rio Grande do Sul, has addressed a circular to his subordinates, instructing them to give assurances of safety to the refugees who wish to return to the state.

—In Pernambuco a meeting of merchants was held on the 29th ult. for the purpose of protesting against the new state taxes. The governor promised to see his influence for causing the burden to be lessened.

—The state of São Paulo is going to establish an agricultural insane asylum. It is to cost 1,000,000\$ and will doubtless be admirably adapted to the holding of *camélias agrícolas* and the manufacture of postage stamps.

—A telegram from Chapcô d'Uva says that the drovers there have resolved not to deliver any more cattle to the Rio abattoir because of inability to collect what the Rio municipal intendencia already owes them.

—Dr. Americo Braziliense says in the *Opinião Nacional*, of S. Paulo, that Senator Aristides Lobo conformed to the *comp d'etat*, and the Senator has written two columns in the *Diário Popular* to prove that he didn't.

—A Curitiba telegram of the 28th ult. says that the governor of Paraná has recently paid 100,000\$ for a building for a police barracks, which is worth only 40,000\$. It's the old trick of course; the balance will probably be judicially divided.

—Advices from Bahia report an attack on the town of Campestre by the *capangas* of Col. Pélis, hero, who was recently defeated in the senatorial election. They are said to have killed a police official, and to have sacked several residences. The judicial officials of that district report that a veritable reign of terror exists there and that the roads are in possession of the bandits.

—It is reported at Montevideo, says a telegram of the 1st inst. from that city, that Col. Mursa will take charge of the state government of Rio Grande and that he will change the policy that has been pursued by the present governor of the state.

—The municipal council of Pará has resolved to expend the 29,000\$ which it proposed to absorb, contrary to law, in a "permanent industrial and agricultural exposition." It looks like a very lame subterfuge. Such a council should be held strictly responsible for its acts.

—According to a statistical table organized in Pará the exports of rubber from Pará and Amazonas between 1839 and 1891 amounted to 269,206,448 kilos. (266,999 tons) valued at 536,130,205\$18. It would be interesting to know what became of the money. The present condition of those states does not explain it.

—The exports from Pará and Amazonas during the years 1830 to 1891 were as follows, according to official returns:

Rubber	quantity	value
.....	150,615,030 kilos	360,640,081\$610
Cacao	55,939,433 "	30,909,803\$343
Castanhas	1,296,105 "	8,619,384\$666
Sundries	18,497,231 "	14,067,957\$908

—The *juiz de direito* of Pará has sustained the denunciation of the directors of the bankrupt Companhia Mercantil, Srs. José Ayres Vatin and Joaquim Guilherme Gonçalves Vianna. The latter is a brother of the Barão de Gondoriz and escaped arrest. The public prosecutor has asked for *providencia* against the Barão himself. These are the people who are responsible for so many "corners" in rubber.

—On the 1st inst. it was reported in Rio de Janeiro that there had been a revolution in São Paulo, where, if rumor speaks truly, a storm has been brewing for some time. It proved, however, that the reported revolution was merely a fight at Cachoeira between the police and railway laborers, one of the latter having been arrested and afterwards rescued by his companions. It is said that the labor union took on active part in the fray and refused to forward telegrams of the police asking for assistance.

—At a meeting of planters in São Paulo on the 31st ult., for the purpose of discussing measures for the introduction of Chinese labor, a committee was appointed to communicate with the municipal councils of the state and with Congress to find what assistance can be procured, and to study the question for the purpose of reporting at a future session. From inquiries made in London it had been found that it would cost £25 per capita to bring the laborers from China, and that they would want £4 per month as wages. It had also been found that difficulties would be encountered in procuring such laborers.

COFFEE NOTES.

—The latest estimate of the "Government" crop of Java coffee places the yield at 687,550 piculs.

—It is estimated that the civil war in Venezuela will reduce the coffee crop there fully 20 per cent.

—According to the latest returns the coffee industry in India has 30 million rupees invested in joint-stock plantations, mills, etc.

—The French consul at Batavia says that leaf disease on the Java coffee plantations is extending. Many interior plantations have been destroyed and the disease has invaded the eastern region. The extension of cultivation to new plantations, however, has prevented a decrease in the total output.

—In view of the additional exactions of coffee shippers at the D. Pedro II docks, would it not be good policy for the government to abolish every monopoly which restricts the action of shippers and permit them to enjoy the fullest liberty in such matters which may not be prejudicial to fiscal interests?

—A protest, signed by all the leading coffee exporters, was presented to the directors of the Empresa Industrial de Melhoramentos do Brazil on the 30th ult. against the increase of 50 reis *cafés* per bag on coffee shipped in the D. Pedro II docks. The increase is purely arbitrary and represents no additional service rendered by the company.

—The British minister at Guatemala says that "the extraordinary growth of the coffee industry in Central America, and especially in the republic of Guatemala, would seem worthy of special notice, and inasmuch as there are still thousands of acres of land left suitable to the cultivation of the plant, it opens up an extensive and marketable field for foreign enterprise. The export of coffee from Guatemala in 1891 amounted to 52,107,853 pounds, valued roughly at about \$12,000,000, and this year's crop will, it is confidently believed, be considerably in excess of that of 1891."

RAILROAD NOTES.

—In Bahia heavy rains have interrupted traffic on the railways.

—Decree No. 1,180, of the 26th ult., fixes at 27¢ per 1\$ the rate of exchange for payment of guaranteed interest on the capital invested in the extension and branches of the Paraná railway.

—A Taubaté telegram of the 29th announces the conclusion of the railway survey between the Campos do Jordão and Campinas. The former place is 60 kilometers from Taubaté and 200 from Campinas.

—The fastest locomotive in the world is a Vaude compound (No. 385) built by the Baldwin Locomotive Works, which ran a mile in 37 seconds on the Jersey Central railway on November 18th. The engine made two miles in 75 seconds and five miles in 205 seconds. It is of an entirely new type built specially for the Jersey Central.

December 31.			
13 Gold \$8.....	1,240	100 lch. Sorrenbana	62
2500 lch. Gerat. £20	2	10 h.h.C. R.L. Uraz.	58
1148 lch Lima C. 1.5	24	452 do	38
50 do	25		
<i>Banks.</i>			
100 Brazil, 25.....	105	100 leicindor.....	10
100 Franco Braz.....	49	2100 do	11
1500 Republica.....	73 500		
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>			
40 Jard. Bot. tram.	180	80 Aurifc. Braz...	15

December 31st. 1892.

BANKS.

<i>Capital</i>	<i>Capital paid up</i>	<i>Reserve fund</i>	<i>Companies</i>	<i>Dividend paid</i>	<i>Nominal value</i>	<i>Last rate</i>	<i>Closing quotations</i>
5,000,000\$	2,400,000\$..	Agrícola de Poxampanema.	3800—July 31	60\$	60200	—
5,000,000	2,400,000	..	Agrícola da Ribeira Preta.	1000—July 31	60	—	—
400,000	400,000	..	Apic. Colônia de Vassouras.	4000—July 31	200	19000	—
2,000,000	2,000,000	..	Cant. e Vapor Fluminense.	1000—July 31	200	21500	—
700,000	700,000	20,000\$	Carreiros Fluminenses.	1000—July 31	200	21000	—
100,000	100,000	36,300	Casa Brasileira.	1000—Sept. 31	85	—	9500—
1,200,000	1,200,000	..	Comunicação e Vapor de Café.	1000—July 31	90	5000	—
6,000,000	6,000,000	..	Empresa de Obras Públicas.	1000—Sept. 31	200	20000	20000—250000
20,000,000	20,000,000	..	Estados Unidos do Rio de Janeiro.	1000—July 31	45	—	—
20,000,000	20,000,000	..	Estados Unidos do Rio de Janeiro.	4000—July 31	100	30000	31000—35000
20,000,000	20,000,000	..	Estados Unidos do Rio de Janeiro.	1000—July 31	100	20000	—
15,000,000	15,000,000	..	Estados Unidos do Rio de Janeiro.	1000—July 31	100	20000	—
1,000,000	1,000,000	..	Estados Unidos do Rio de Janeiro.	1000—July 31	100	20000	—
2,500,000	2,500,000	24,400	Metropolitana.	1000—July 31	40	20000	—
1,000,000	1,000,000	..	Nacional de Fajãs e Estos.	1000—July 31	100	20000	—
1,000,000	1,000,000	..	Nacional de Obras.	5000—July 31	35	—	—
1,000,000	1,000,000	..	Nacional do Rio de Janeiro.	3000—July 31	90	—	—
50,000,000	50,000,000	..	Obras Hidráulicas do Brasil.	1000—July 31	40	20000	—
10,000,000	10,000,000	21,800	Pavimento do Rio.	12000—July 31	30	35000	—
10,000,000	10,000,000	..	Servicos Maritimos.	1000—July 31	100	20000	—
10,000,000	10,000,000	34,710	Torreus Brasileiras.	5000—July 31	80	47000	49000—50000
90,000,000	90,000,000	..	União do Rio de Janeiro.	4000—July 31	201	20000	—

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1892		
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" 11	Tamor	Bahia, Pernambuco, Los Palmas, Lisbon, Vigo, Southampton and Antwerp.
" 20	Trent	Montevideo and Buenos-Aires.
" 27	Magdalena	Bahia, Pernambuco, S. Vicente, Lisbon, Vigo, Southampton and Antwerp.

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